

Claims

1. A door being movable relative to surrounding structure for at least partially covering a doorway of a wall, comprising:

an upper track;

a door panel suspended from the upper track and being movable horizontally across the doorway along a predetermined normal path;

a lower track disposed below the upper track and being attachable to one of the door panel and the surrounding structure;

a panel retention system adapted to be carried by one of the door panel and the surrounding structure, wherein the panel retention system is movably connected to the lower track such that the panel retention system and the lower track provide relative traveling motion therebetween to help guide the door panel along the predetermined normal path; and

a resilient connection provided by at least one of the track and the panel retention system, wherein the resilient connection has a yield point that when exceeded forces the resilient connection into a yield mode where the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path, and afterwards the resilient connection automatically returns to a normal mode where the door panel is back within the predetermined normal path.

2. The door of claim 1, wherein the door panel carries the panel retention system.

3. The door of claim 1, wherein the door panel carries the lower track.

4. The door of claim 1, wherein the panel retention system remains in contact with the lower track even when the resilient connection is in the yield mode and the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path.

5. The door of claim 1, wherein the panel retention system separates from the lower track when the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path.

6. The door of claim 1, wherein the resilient connection automatically returns to its normal mode by virtue of the resilient connection being resilient.

7. The door of claim 1, wherein the lower track is a stationary bar.

8. The door of claim 1, wherein the panel retention system comprises a spring and a track follower, wherein the track follower engages the track and the spring is

coupled to the track follower to urge the door panel toward the predetermined normal path when the door panel is beyond the predetermined normal path.

9. The door of claim 8, wherein the spring is disposed within a tube.

10. The door of claim 9, wherein the spring is a tension spring.

11. The door of claim 8, further comprising a pliable elongate member coupling the spring to the track follower.

12. The door of claim 11, wherein the pliable elongate member has a length that is adjustable to vary the yield point.

13. The door of claim 1, wherein the resilient connection automatically returns to the normal mode by simply opening and closing the door.

14. The door of claim 1, wherein the lower track includes the resilient connection.

15. The door of claim 1, wherein the panel retention system includes the resilient connection.

16. A door for at least partially covering a doorway of a wall, comprising:
an upper track;

a door panel suspended from the upper track and being movable horizontally across the doorway along a predetermined normal path;

a lower track disposed below the upper track and being attachable to one of the door panel and the wall;

a panel retention system carried by one of the door panel and the wall;

a track follower borne by the panel retention system, wherein the track follower is movably connected the lower track such that the track follower and the lower track provide relative traveling motion therebetween to help guide the door panel along the predetermined normal path; and

a spring borne by the panel retention system, coupled to the track follower, and having a yield point such that when the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path the spring yields but urges the door panel back to the predetermined normal path,

wherein the track follower remains engaged with the lower track even when the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path.

17. The door of claim 16, further comprising a pliable elongate member coupling the spring to the track follower.

18. The door of claim 17, wherein the pliable elongate member has a length that is adjustable to vary the yield point.

19. The door of claim 16, wherein the door panel carries the panel retention system.

20. The door of claim 16, wherein the door panel carries the lower track.

21. The door of claim 16, wherein the spring is disposed within a tube.

22. The door of claim 16, wherein the spring is a tension spring.

23. A door for at least partially covering a doorway of a wall, comprising:

an upper track;

a door panel suspended from the upper track and being movable horizontally across the doorway along a predetermined normal path;

a lower track disposed below the upper track and being attachable to one of the door panel and the wall;

a track follower engaging the lower track such that the track follower and the lower track provide relative traveling motion therebetween to help guide the door panel along the predetermined normal path; and

a resilient connection provided by at least one of the track and the track follower, wherein the resilient connection has a yield point such that when the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path, the resilient connection yields to allow the track follower to separate from the lower track, wherein door panel automatically returns to the predetermined normal path and the track follower automatically re-engages the lower track upon opening and closing the door.

24. The door of claim 23, wherein the door panel carries the track follower.

25. The door of claim 23, wherein the door panel carries the lower track.

26. The door of claim 23, wherein the lower track includes the resilient connection.

27. The door of claim 23, wherein the panel retention system includes the resilient connection.

28. A door being movable relative to a floor for at least partially covering a doorway of a wall, comprising:

an upper track;

a door panel suspended from the upper track and being movable horizontally across the doorway along a predetermined normal path;

a lower track disposed below the upper track and being attachable to one of the door panel and the floor;

a panel retention system carried by one of the door panel and the floor, wherein the panel retention system is movably connected to the lower track such that the panel retention system and the lower track provide relative traveling motion therebetween to help guide the door panel along the predetermined normal path; and

a resilient connection provided by at least one of the track and the panel retention system, wherein the resilient connection has a yield point that when exceeded forces the resilient connection into a yield mode where the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path, and afterwards the resilient connection automatically returns to a normal mode where the door panel is back within the predetermined normal path.

29. The door of claim 28, wherein the panel retention system includes a roller and the resilient connection connects the roller to the door panel.

30. The door of claim 29, wherein the lower track is between the wall and the roller when the door panel moves beyond the predetermined normal path.